



League of United Latin American Citizens
Lorenzo Patiño Council #2862

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<http://www.sacramentolulac.org>

TO: History/Social Science Committee.

From: League of United Latin American Citizens Lorenzo Patiño Council

RE: Need for Latino history included in the draft Framework for History/Social Science.

Date: April 23, 2015

I am writing on behalf of the LULAC Sacramento Council Lorenzo Patiño No 2862. The League of Latin American Citizens, or LULAC was founded in 1929 to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States. The Lorenzo Patiño Council has been involved in many efforts to provide assistance and raise awareness on issues affecting our community. Since 1983 the Lorenzo Patiño Council has been promoting higher education, working for local charities and promoting the defense of civil liberties in our region. Often we work with other Latino groups on issues surrounding education, labor, health and employment.

It is in the history of our organization that in 1945, a California LULAC Council successfully sued to integrate the Orange County School System, which had been segregated on the grounds that Mexican children were “more poorly clothed and mentally inferior to white children.” We believe moments like these belong in the history books of a state whose population will be predominantly Hispanic within the next decades. It is an injustice to deprive the children of our state from their history. This is why the Council supports the addition of the following proposed amendments in Latino History to the draft Framework for History and Social Science of our school system.

On Line 2014, Page 351 amend the description to include: From 1994 on, political campaigns in California and other states pass a series of anti-immigrant propositions and laws (Prop.187. Prop.227). All but one provision of Prop.187 was blocked by the federal courts citing U.S. constitutional protections. In 1996 the Immigration Reform Act passed by U.S. Congress provides for increased border enforcement and benefit cuts. The policing of the border drastically increased after September 11, 2001. From 2003 political conflict and controversy become national issues along with low quality public schools and lack of employment opportunities. In response the Latino community becomes increasingly politically active, increasing their voter registration and participation, changing the political makeup of first the California legislature, then the federal congress. Latinos become the largest ethnic group in California 2010, a plurality of all residents, and Latino children become more than 51% of the public school students. Despite the rapid population growth this did not happen overnight.

The following list of historical events contribute to the perseverance of a population that has continually been robbed of their roots and history and should therefore be mentioned within the amendments of the curriculum.

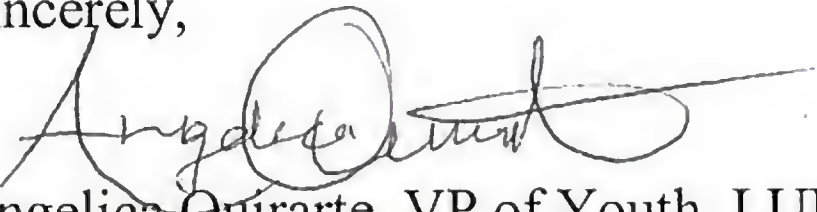
- The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, when California became a part of the United States
- Governor Pio Pico administration, the first governor of the state under the Mexico jurisdiction

- Governor Pacheco administration, first Mexican-American governor (either second or third in the state) under the United States.
- Mendez vs. Westminster, the historic court case that took place in Westminster, CA which desegregated schools in California
- The story of Richie Valens, famous musician from Pacoima, CA
- The story of the Zoot zoot riots and the growing anti-hispanic sentiment after World War II.
- And lastly, the 1967 Walkouts where hundreds of students walked out of their schools in Los Angeles to demand equal treatment in the same period that Cesar Chavez fought for the rights and representation for the farm workers in the state.
- Chavez Ravine in the city of Los Angeles, when the city of Los Angeles declared eminent domain and removed the residents of Chavez Ravine who were predominantly Chican@.

These events make up a small fraction of Hispanic History in California. If the future generation is going to learn the history of their roots, they should learn it all, not the censored history that forgets the largest growing population that was here before California was part of the U.S. and remains here because it is their home. I propose that you include the above in a revised framework and we thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions please feel free contact me at the email address below or Luisa Menchaca, President LULAC Council 2862, at [\(916\) 719-2642](tel:9167192642) or lucha2004@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,


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